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	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	09/960,671	TAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Scott E. Jones	3713	
The MAILING DATE of this communication apperature All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this app or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject to	olication. If not includ will be mailed in due	ed course. THIS
1. 🗵 This communication is responsive to the after final amendr	ment filed on 6/28/04.		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 7,12 and 14-17.			
3. The drawings filed on 25 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.			
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority ur a) All b)	been received. been received in Application No cuments have been received in this rece	national stage applicate complying with the restance S AMENDMENT or N	quirements
(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d). 7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.			
 Attachment(s) 1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/O Paper No./Mail Date	5. Notice of Informal P 6. Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat 7. Examiner's Amendo 8. Examiner's Stateme 9. Other	(PTO-413), te nent/Comment	

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Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 7, 12, and 14-17 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In independent claims 7 and 12, neither Faith nor Kelly discloses, teaches, or fairly suggests setting a jackpot value for one of a plurality of targets based on detecting the aiming direction of the shooting unit.

Faith discloses setting the highest jackpot value for the first (top) bowel (70) which has the smallest diameter and requires the most skill for tossing or flipping in a coin (Figure 2 and Column 2, line 65-Column 3, line 24). Players tend to lose a large number of coins if they always aim for this bowel. Furthermore, players tend to aim and shoot at targets having lower jackpot values since payouts are based upon accumulated values (or points) obtained in the shooting game. The instant invention is defined over the prior art of record because the instant invention varies the degree of difficulty to hit the jackpot value target by setting the jackpot value target in view of the aiming direction of the discharging unit. Thus, aiming for the jackpot value target becomes more appealing to the player since this provides an opportunity to accumulate a higher point total in a shooting game correlating to a higher player payout. This statement is not intended to necessarily state all of the reasons for allowance or all the details why the claims are allowed and should not imply that all the reasons for allowance have been set forth.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott E. Jones whose telephone number is (703) 308-7133. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 6:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M..

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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> JOHN M. HOTALING, II PRIMARY EXAMINER

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